

Belmont Human Rights Commission
Minutes

Meeting
March 6, 2008

Present: Connie Williams, Judie Feins, Nan Donald, Laurie Graham, Fran Yuan, Moez Rawji

Absent: Rosalind Kabrhel, Camille Sarrouf, Janet Cudmore-Boswell, Trish Lohmar

Liasons Present: Peter Hoerr, Paul Solomon

The meeting began at 7:15 pm, presided by Laurie Graham

The minutes of Feb 7 were approved.

1. Music Event: Fran presented the preparations and plan for the Concert on March 29. The event will be broadcast on cable. Fliers were given to the members for circulation. Members, if available, were requested to assist in the set up at about 5.30 PM.

2. Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing: Judie reported that much still needs to be done with little time left, and the need for \$20K in funding as a problem. This report is required for continuing the grants of \$100K. The possibility of an extension will be explored, in addition to working with other towns in terms of time and cost.

3. Fair Housing Act Commemoration: Not much progress. Ideas were discussed, e.g. Media Club at BHS for an Oral History Project. Judy plans to write something towards content e.g. descriptions, questions, etc.; Connie will contact potential participants.

4. One Book One Belmont: Laurie reported that events were well attended and received. It was deemed a great success.

5. BHRC Event Sponsorship: The issue of co-sponsoring events that involve a high degree of world affairs was raised, with the suggestion that BHRC be focused on local Belmont issues. Clearly some world events have significant human rights issues. However, some of the objections to co-sponsorship raised were lack of knowledge and information comprehensiveness, subjectivity, dilution of BHRC effort, opportunity cost, etc. A robust discussion ensued, and while no decisions were made, there was a general consensus that future co-sponsorship should not be knee-jerk but taken with more deliberation.

The meeting adjourned at 9.00 PM